

REMARKS

The last Office Action has been carefully considered.

It is noted that claims 7 and 18 are considered by the Examiner as allowable over the prior art of record.

Claims 5 and 7-10 were objected only as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

The other claims were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) over the patent to Williams or under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) over the patent to Broecker and under 35 U.S.C. 103 over the patent to Broecker.

The Examiner's indication of the allowability of claims 5 and 7-10 has been gratefully acknowledged.

In connection with this indication, claims 5, 7, 9 and 10 have been amended to make them independent, and these claims together with claim 8 which depends on claim 7 should now be in allowable condition.

At the same time, have been retained claims 1 and 15 as they were.

These claims specifically define that the valve has a movable lifting rod, one end of which opens into an actuator.

This clearly means that the valve has a valve chamber with inlet and outlet conduits, a movable lifting rod, an actuator in which one end of the movable lifting end opens, and other elements.

Turning now to the references and particularly to the patent to Williams and the patent to Broecker, it can be seen that these references, in the applicant's opinion do not teach the above mentioned new features of the present invention. The Examiner stated on page 2 in connection with the rejection of claims 1 and 16 that "Williams includes a rod 24 which extends to be used with a fuel chuck, which is the actuator". The Examiner is correct in saying that the valve disclosed in the patent to Williams has a lifting rod 24, however its end is not open into an actuator, but instead extends outside of the valve housing (for use with an external actuator). This can be seen in Figures 3 and 4 of the patent to Williams. The valve disclosed in the patent

to Williams which, as Examiner correctly indicated is "to be used with a field chuck" does not include any actuator.

It is therefore believed that the new features of the present invention which are defined in claims 1 and 15 are not disclosed in the patent to Williams or the patent to Broecker.

These claims therefore should be considered as patentably distinguishing over the art and should be allowed.

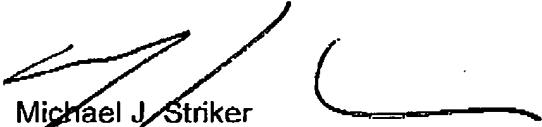
As for the dependent claims, these claims depend on the independent claim 1, they share its presumably allowable features, and it is respectfully submitted that they should be allowed as well.

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application is most respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner require or consider it advisable that the specification, claims and/or drawings be further amended or corrected in formal respects in order to place this case in condition for final allowance, then it is respectfully requested that such amendments or corrections be

carried out by Examiner's Amendment, and the case be passed to issue. Alternatively, should the Examiner feel that a personal discussion might be helpful in advancing this case to allowance, he is invited to telephone the undersigned (at 631-549-4700).

Respectfully submitted,


Michael J. Striker
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 27233